

NSC BRIEFING

16 April 1957

STATUS OF ALGERIAN REBELLION

25X1

- I. No material let-up in 30-month-old Algerian rebellion.
- A. Lacoste's latest prediction--"material improvement" of France's military position by June--appears as unlikely as his earlier ones ("improvement" by June '56, Oct '56, Feb '57).
- B. New "psychological offensive" launched by Lacoste last weekend.
1. To safeguard Moslem "self-respect and dignity".
  2. Only specific French step: stop "Tu"-ing Moslems.
  3. "Offensive" also includes new amnesty offer to rebels.
- II. Meanwhile, rebel strength still 20-30,000.

25X1 A. [redacted] capabilities much improved over last year; rebels determined to stay in field two more years, if necessary.

B. Arms shortage remains chief rebel handicap: [redacted]

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